

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/059441 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>:

G06F

(74) Agent: SANTANGELO, Luke; Santangelo Law Offices,  
P.C., Third Floor, 125 South Howes, Fort Collins, CO  
80521 (US).

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2003/040974

(22) International Filing Date:

19 December 2003 (19.12.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/435,601 20 December 2002 (20.12.2002) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DAKO-  
CYTOMATION DENMARK A/S [DK/DK]; Produk-  
tionsvej 42, DK-2600 Glostrup (DK).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT (util-  
ity model), AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ,  
CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE  
(utility model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC,  
EE (utility model), EE, EG, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB,  
GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG,  
KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG,  
MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL,  
PT (utility model), PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK (util-  
ity model), SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG,  
US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

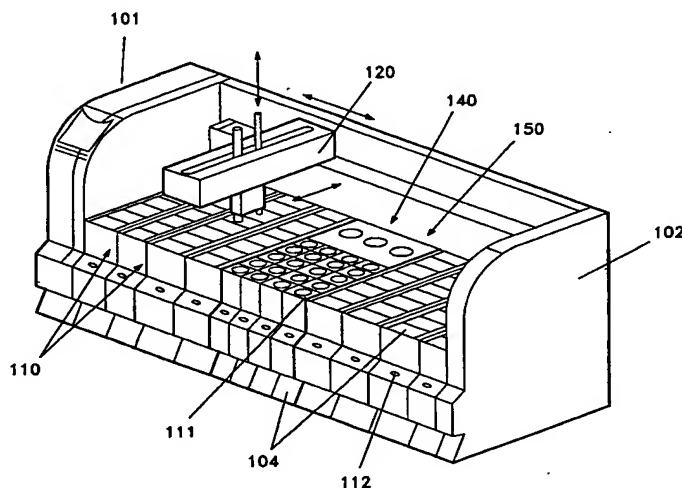
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): FEINGOLD, Gor-  
don [US/US]; 5242 Austin Road, Santa Barbara, CA  
93111 (US). KEY, Marc [US/US]; 290 Saddle Lane, Ojai,  
CA 93023 (US). WELCHER, Rosanne [US/US]; 1175  
Church Street, Ventura, CA 93001 (US). FAVUZZI, John  
[US/US]; 5086 San Bernardo Place, Santa Barbara, CA  
93111 (US).

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,  
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE,  
SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,  
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INFORMATION NOTIFICATION SAMPLE PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHODS OF BIOLOGICAL SLIDE PROCESSING



(57) Abstract: A sample processing system (101) that may be automated and methods are disclosed where samples (198) are arranged on a carrier element (197) and a process operation control system (171) automatically processes the samples) perhaps robotically with an operationally-influential exteriorly-consequential information monitor (402) or a data capture element (414). Significant process details as well as operationally-influential exteriorly-consequential information may be monitored and an automatic notice element (404) may cause notification of a person at some display (415) that may be remote. Various people may be notified, such as an administrator, a supplier, or a manufacturer of an opportunity for some action such as reagent reordering or the like. A simulated motion display may be included to "watch" simulated operation in real time or long after completion of the actual processing.